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appears to recommend would yield wood worth the cost of production. Nor would timber produced at the expense of the tax-payer instead of at the expense of the consumer be necessarily cheap.

Although timber is indispensable for certain products, we may be better off with less of it for other products. Most of us prefer steel cars to wooden ones, for example, even if we prefer wooden toothpicks to pins. From the standpoint of the public good, dissociated with commercial life, I should prefer to see money put into education and charity, rather than into trees.

The development of forestry in the United States, also, has been handicapped by failure to give forest fire protection attention which is adequate to the need. Without adequate fire protection, any other step in forestry is wasted. If we could concentrate on this need during the next ten or twenty years, and meet it completely, relegating reforestation and regulation of cutting to the future, the effort would be more productive than has been the past policy of urging methods prematurely intensive.

In reference to the important subject of timber for military requirements, our policy should be directed to the specific needs. A lot of poorly developed second growth is not going to furnish airplane stock. I have read no recommendations that provision be made for production or conservation of the special high grade lumber necessary for certain military uses, although the Forest Service has made a step in the right direction in publishing a recent bulletin on black walnut utilization during the war.

Mr. Pinchot's discussion of the relations of wood-producing and wood-consuming States opens up the whole field of political policy between the States and the Federal Government. It requires too comprehensive a study of political philosophy to be taken into account in determining practical measures in the woods. Furthermore, Mr. Pinchot seriously jeopardizes the cause of forestry by opposing in fact, the democratic and practical plan of cooperation between the States and the Federal Government embodied in the Snell bill, H. R. 15,327, which has the support of the Forest Service, of the wood-producing States at least, and of important wood-using industries. Much as we owe to Mr. Pinchot as the father of forestry in this country, more effective and more harmonious results can now be secured, under our democratic institutions, by many foresters working more or less independently but harmoniously, throughout the country, than under an over-centralized head.

P. T. COOLIDGE.

Bangor, Maine.

ANOTHER VIEW

SIR:

I read the splendid article by the Honorable Gifford Pinchot in *THE NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW* of February, and I have, as I wrote Mr. Pinchot, quoted some portions of it in a bulletin which I have just written on our rapidly disappearing wood supply in Canada.

This article of Mr. Pinchot is one of the best that I have ever read, and the extracts which I have made, I think, are particularly striking and cannot be reprinted too often, as the public needs to be aroused from its apathy regarding its rapidly vanishing wood supply, which is without doubt the most important problem facing this continent to-day.

FRANK J. D. BARNJUM.

Annapolis Royal, N. S.

THE INNATE VICIOUSNESS OF TYPE

SIR:

I have read with great interest William Roscoe Thayer's article "The Close of an Epoch" in the March number of THE NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW. I am, however, very much surprised to find a glaring error on page 292 where it says that Count Bernstorff "was a frequent and welcome visitor at the White House until the beginning of 1918." Count Bernstorff was dismissed on 3rd February 1917 and sailed from New York on February 14th, let us hope never to return to Washington. Do you not think you ought to furnish libraries with an erratum slip in bound sets of THE NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW?

G. F. BOWERMAN,
Librarian.

The Public Library of the District of Columbia, Washington.

SIR:

Will you allow me to thank Mr. George F. Bowerman, Librarian of the Public Library of the District of Columbia, for calling attention to a typographical slip in my article on "The Close of an Epoch," in the March REVIEW?

On page 292, the date "1918" should obviously be 1917.

As I state elsewhere in my article that the United States broke off relations with Germany in 1917, I trust that few readers were misled by the slip.

WILLIAM ROSCOE THAYER.

Cambridge, Mass.